

U.S. Senator. The G-8 countries recently pledged to implement incorporation transparency as well.

As Global Witness has stated, "Setting a standard for collecting information about the true owner of a company would level the playing field between the states while preventing terrorists, drug traffickers and kleptocrats from hiding behind corporate secrecy."

The bill is supported by both Global Witness and Global Financial Integrity, as well as numerous law enforcement associations, including the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys, the National Narcotic Officers' Associations Coalition, the United States Marshals Service Association, and the Association of Former ATF Agents.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY WEEK

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the nation's healthcare quality and patient safety professionals who work every day to ensure that our health system delivers high quality, cost-effective and safe care. During National Healthcare Quality Week, October 20 through 26, healthcare facilities nationwide celebrate the efforts of those professionals to improve health care. Healthcare quality and patient safety professionals make a positive contribution to our care by monitoring clinical processes and outcomes, analyzing data to improve systems, and helping to integrate new, evidence-based practices.

I am proud to note that their professional organization, the National Association for Healthcare Quality, NAHQ, is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois and is in my district. Its 5,400 individual members and 100 institutional members bring expertise to healthcare quality in all settings and specialty areas. They are the on-the-ground professionals who are helping healthcare facilities meet Obamacare's focus on improving quality care while reducing costs.

Quality professionals address many issues in the healthcare workplace, including ensuring that a patient's medications are reconciled, healthcare-associated infections are prevented, and the quality of care is continually improved. They strive to assure that the progress their facility makes on these and many other issues are reported in an accurate and transparent manner.

I applaud our health professionals whose job is to ensure that patients receive safe and quality health care and urge my colleagues to do the same.

ON THE 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE HUNGARIAN UPRISING OF
1956—HUNGARY REMAINS A NA-
TION OF PATRIOTS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the Hungarian freedom fighters who rose up against the communist tyranny that was imposed on their country after World War II. Many men and women died in that uprising—a courageous fight against incredible odds, as the Soviets sent in tanks to restore the puppet regime they installed in 1948.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman or Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission I have been on human rights missions to Hungary many times over the years. One of the things that most impresses me about this country is the deeply admirable patriotism of so many Hungarians. By patriotism I mean something very different from nationalism—whereas nationalists resent and are aggressive toward other countries, patriots love and defend their own country and its best traditions, and allow—invite—other people to love their own countries and traditions.

This summer I visited Hungary on a congressional delegation ably led by my colleague on the Helsinki Commission, Senator Roger Wicker. We met with Prime Minister Orban and others, and it is in connection with this anniversary and our meeting with Prime Minister that I'd like to place into the record a recent interview Prime Minister Orban gave to the Telegraph.

I commend this to my colleagues as the words of a Prime Minister who thinks seriously and speaks frankly about issues facing his country and Europe as a whole.

VIKTOR ORBAN INTERVIEW: "PATRIOTISM IS A GOOD THING"—THE PRIME MINISTER OF HUNGARY, VIKTOR ORBAN, TELLS THE TELEGRAPH WHY HIS COUNTRY AGREES WITH BRITAIN IN ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE "CREEPING" POWER OF BRUSSELS

(By Charles Moore)

15 OCT 2013

Viktor Orban has just had a good meeting with David Cameron. It was easier than his first with Margaret Thatcher (in 2001). "I am not satisfied with you," were, he recalls, her first words. She was angry that Hungary was not doing more to help protect Nato's soldiers from Serb aggression.

Despite this rebuff, Mr Orban is a Thatcher admirer. His political career began in 1988 when he was one of 37 young students and intellectuals founding a party to attack Communist rule in his country.

"Her role was very important: she was always in favour of freedom, always anti-Communist. She said, 'There is no such thing as society.' I like that remark very much because in European politics people were always talking in artificial sociological language. Social engineering was very popular."

When he attended Lady Thatcher's funeral in April, he was pleased that the Bishop of London explained what she really meant by those famous words. "The funeral was very moving and very British—not tragical, as it would be on the Continent—more of a tribute."

Young Viktor, a clever boy from a country background, won a George Soros scholarship

to Oxford to study civic society as seen by liberal political philosophers such as John Locke. He loved the "electrifying dance" of ideas there; but this was the autumn of 1989 and the Berlin Wall was coming down. Here was the chance actually to build a liberal civic society at home. "I said to myself, 'Viktor, what are you doing here?' and I took the occasion of our first free elections in March 1990 to go back."

He became prime minister for the first time in 1998, until 2002, and then, after wilderness years, returned to power with a landslide in 2010. His time in office has been controversial. He has been accused, often by European Union officials, of too much nationalism, of suppressing media freedom, politicising the judiciary and the central bank, and even of stirring up ethnic tensions. Has the great liberal freedom-fighter narrowed? Is there a risk that he could become an authoritarian strongman, the Vladimir Putin of his country?

"The risk is there," Mr Orban rather surprisingly admits, though it is much smaller if Hungary is economically successful. He thinks that circumstances have changed. [Update: The office of the Prime Minister of Hungary has asked the Telegraph to clarify the reference to Vladimir Putin in this interview. Mr Orban intended to assent to there being a risk that he could come to seem like a Putin of Hungary, not actually to become one.]

For 200 years, the "No. 1 motivation" for Hungarians was to catch up with more competitive Westerners. Until the credit crisis, Mr Orban believed that this could only be achieved by the "ever-closer union" of Europe. Now he has his doubts.

The crisis shows that it is not obvious that the EU can do better than independent nations. Unlike the British, he cannot rule out joining the eurozone, because of its centripetal pull for a small country like his, "but I don't urge it. To stand alone on your own feet is more important than ever." Hungary certainly should not join until it reaches 90 per cent of the GDP of those already in, he believes; right now it is in the low sixties.

"As I get older [he is still only 50], I tend to be more sceptical. Values are more important than money. National sovereignty is more and more important in my mind. The question 'Who is governing us?' is the key question."

So he supports David Cameron's efforts to change the European rules: "We shall need a new basic treaty eventually." He wants to join Britain in resisting "the creeping movement of Brussels to eat up national sovereignty".

The old answer that everything Westerners did was better is now "stupid". In the 1980s, the question Hungarians faced was "how to get rid of things"—Communism, state oppression, overregulation. Now that should stop. There are things which should be upheld in the interests of civilisation, not jettisoned: "It would be a sad story to get rid of religious belief, national identity, family and even sexual identity. That's not freedom."

In some schools on the continent, the idea has got about that "children should not be brought up as girls or guys", but to choose their sexual identity later. "Sometimes there is a separate changing room for those who don't know who they are," he exclaims.

What does he say to accusations that he is stirring up old ethnic, territorial passions in the region? Some blame him for the rise of the fascistic Jobbik party in Hungary. His answer is based on his belief that "Xenophobia is dangerous; but patriotism is a good thing". Ethnic disputes, often about land, are "a part of life in Eastern Europe", he says.